

January 20, 2015

TESTIMONY OF FRANCIS J. BRADY

TO: The Chairs and Members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee

Good morning Senator Duff, Representative Janowski, Senator Kane, Representative Buck-Taylor and members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee. My name is Francis Brady. It is an honor to have been appointed as a member of the Freedom of Information Commission ("FOIC") by Governor Dannel P. Malloy. I appreciate the Committee providing me the opportunity to appear before you and explain my interest in serving on the FOIC.

By way of background, I believe that I have the qualifications to properly discharge the responsibilities of an FOIC member. I am an attorney with the firm of Murtha Cullina LLP and have been affiliated with that firm since 1974, first as an associate, then as a partner and presently in the role of Of Counsel. During my tenure with my firm, my principle responsibility has been in the area of corporate litigation. As to the legal profession, I have been fortunate enough to have served as President of the Hartford County Bar Association and later as President of the Connecticut Bar Association. I have also served on a number of Bar Association committees and special projects devoted to the advancement of the profession and the provision of legal services including a focus on services to those less fortunate among us through pro bono programs. I also have served on two State commissions associated with the Judicial Branch: (1) the Connecticut State Bar Examining Committee and (2) the Connecticut Legal Specialization Screening Committee. Through these various

activities, I believe that I have gained a knowledge of the law and the procedural and administrative application of the law which would be of benefit to the FOIC.

As to my local government experience, when I resided in the Town of Windsor, I served as a member of the Town Council and ultimately as Mayor. In 2001, I moved to the Town of Granby where I have served on the Board of Finance since 2003. In addition, over the years, I have served on a number of local boards and commissions.

As to the FOIC, I have been fortunate to have served as an interim member since September 2014. In that regard, I have gained an understanding as to the workings of the Commission and the concerns and challenges of claimants and respondents who appear before the Commission. I believe that my experience as a participant in local government has given me a helpful insight into the workings of the cities and towns, which experience will serve me well in evaluating the cases that come before the Commission. Similarly, I believe that my experience as a practicing attorney will assist in resolving those cases on a fair and equitable basis.

I would close my testimony by inviting any questions any member of the Committee may have and thanking each of you for the courtesy of inviting my appearance before you.
